



Queen Anne Cobblestone

The Newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society, Seattle, WA

March, 2009

Historic Harlan Thomas Church Nominated for Landmark Status

By Leanne Olson

QAHS Landmarks Preservation Comm.

On August 28, 2007, this historic Queen Anne community church was purchased by the **Seattle Church of Christ** and saved from demolition, following a long campaign by the Queen Anne Historical Society, in collaboration with other preservation groups and concerned neighbors.

The new owners, under the leadership of Reverend Jay Kelly, have agreed to support the decision of the Queen Anne Historical Society



Seventh Church of Christ, Scientist in 1937. The elegant Neo-Byzantine-Early-Christian Revival structure was designed by noted Seattle architect Harlan Thomas and built in 1926. Today it is the Seattle Church of Christ, at 8th Ave. W. and W. Halladay St. Puget Sound Regional Archives.

Board of Trustees to pursue City of Seattle Landmark designation for the property, thereby enabling this

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SEATTLE'S FIRST BIG SHOW THE ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION

NOTE—NEW DAY

WED. APRIL 8, 7:30 PM

The March public program of the Queen Anne Historical Society has been moved to April 8th. The day had to be changed due to schedule conflicts at our regular location at McClure School. But be sure to mark your calendars for this new day, because you will love the program we have planned..

Alan J. Stein, author and Historylink historian, will present the tale of how Seattle came to host a world-famous exposition, one hundred years ago. The **1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition** was held in Seattle on the University of Washington campus from June 1 to October 16. This was Washington's first world's fair and it celebrated 12 years of prosperity—since the 1897 Alaska Gold Rush—through the display of resources, products, and advantages of Washington and the region. More than three million people visited the fair from Washington cities and counties and from the rest of the country, putting our young city on the map as a gateway to the Pacific Rim.

This year's A-Y-P Exposition centennial will include many programs around King County. You can hear the whole story on April eighth.

Join your friends and neighbors for this free and fascinating program about the A-Y-P Exposition.

Wed., April 8, 2009, 7:30 pm
McClure Middle School Library
First Ave. W. and W. Crockett

Queen Anne Historical Society meetings are free and open to the public. Donations are appreciated.
For more information contact
John Hennes, 206-284-2266.



The Oriental Building at the AYPE in 1909. The UW campus forest was incorporated in many of the exposition buildings.



Now Hear This! Time to Renew!

If you haven't renewed your membership in the Queen Anne Historical Society—now is the time. If your mailing label says "2008EXP", you need to renew for 2009. Please use the coupon on page 3 or go on-line to renew now and receive future newsletters. *Questions? Call Membership Chair, Tara Lawrence, 206-281-8430, tara@qahistory.org.*

how to contact us:

Queen Anne Historical Society
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Seattle, WA 98109-1432

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The *Queen Anne Cobblestone* is the official newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society. It is published five times a year by the Society, at PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432. © 2009

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The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

The Archives of the Society are located in
Bayview Manor,
11 W. Aloha St., Seattle, WA 98119

CALENDAR OF HERITAGE EVENTS

Wed. Apr. 8, 2009 *Note new date!*

QAHS Program: The Centennial of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, Part I. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free/Donations appreciated. (See story page one.)

Wed. May. 27, 2009

QAHS Program: The Centennial of the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, Part II—the Queen Anne Connection. Also our Annual Meeting. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free/Donations appreciated.

Sat. June 13, 2009

Walking Tour: The annual Mt. Pleasant Cemetery historical walking tour. 7th Ave W. and W. Raye St., 10 am. Free/Donations appreciated.

Sat. Aug. 8, 2009

Walking Tour: A special AYPE Centennial walking tour on Queen Anne, visiting buildings connected to the 1909 exposition. Time and starting point TBD. Free/Donations appreciated.

Wed. Sept. 30, 2009

QAHS Program: A special program at the Swedish Culture Center. The evening includes a social hour, an authentic Swedish dinner and a program on the Swedish community's role in the AYP Exposition. 1920 Dexter Ave. N. Time TBD. Program is free. Dinner price and details to be announced later.

(Continued from page 1)

wonderful legacy of architect Harlan Thomas to endure for future generations. The congregation has maintained and upgraded the building during their period of stewardship and is actively engaged in fund-raising efforts to allow stabilization of the structure.

The most crucial element requiring attention is the roof, which must be addressed in order to prevent further water damage. In addition, earthquake retrofitting is needed. The congregation applied for a King County 4Culture grant in 2008 to aid in this restoration effort and was awarded \$19,000 to help build the funds required for this major project.

A Landmark Nomination Report has been prepared by Larry Johnson, AIA, principal of The Johnson Partnership, with the assistance of Society

members Char Eggleston, Leanne Olson and Bruce Jones. We anticipate that the nomination will be presented to the City of Seattle Landmarks Preservation Board this spring.



At that time, we will ask Society members and the Queen Anne community to contribute by writing letters supporting Landmark designation for the church.

For further information, contact Char Eggleston, Queen Anne Historical Society President, at 206-378-1618.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Queen Anne Historical Society is to record and preserve, in permanent form, the history of the settling of the Queen Anne community in Seattle, WA and to develop within the community an appreciation and concern for its history and its historical sites.

HERITAGE NEWS

Cobblestone Now Available by Email to Members

As you know, we mail out the Cobblestone newsletter five times a year, to help keep you informed about preservation issues. If you would like to receive the Cobblestone as an electronic file, instead of a mailed hard copy, please send a message from your home email to help@qahistory.org, asking to be placed on the electronic mail list.

QAHS Members Special Note

Users of our website, qahistory.org, know that Society members have access to a "Members Only" section that contains many pictures, useful pages and links to other heritage information sources.

Beginning April 1 the member access to that section will require a new **UserID: Member** and **Password: Mercer**.

Both are case sensitive—be advised.

Steven Dietz Nominated

The latest nomination for the Distinguished Queen Anne Citizen list is **Steven Dietz, playwright**. Mr. Dietz has written many thought provoking plays that have been performed all over the world,



Steven Dietz.

several at ACT Theater in Seattle (*Lonely Planet*, *Becky's New Car* and others). He has lived in Seattle most of the time since 1988.

The committee is researching Mr. Dietz's history to determine if he qualifies as a Queen Anne citizen of distinction. Other names suggested recently include the late **George Bartell, Jr.** and **George Sundborg**.

What do you think? Who is a Queen Anner? What defines a distinguished citizen? You are invited to join in this research. The next meeting is April 1, 11 am, at Merrill Gardens. Please join us... this is fun! Contact Bob Frazier, 206-285-0958 for details.

AKCHO Meeting On Queen Anne is Great Success

The Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) held its February meeting at the Seattle Church of Christ on February 24th.

Hosted by our Society, the meeting allowed the extended heritage community to learn about the preservation of the church building and to see a presentation on the QAHS and our

activities, as presented by Bruce Jones.

The Society provided refreshments and Rev. Jay Kelly gave a brief talk on the building and how their church was inspired to buy it and move in. A brief tour of the building followed.

The main program was a presentation on "Destination Heritage", a project of 4Culture and King County to produce some illustrated guides to historic places around King County. These beautiful guides, themed to three areas of: agriculture, industry and maritime history, will be available free to visitors throughout King County.

Flo Lentz, 4Culture Preservation Lead described how the guides were developed and their goal to distribute 35,000 of each of these.



Flo Lentz, 4Culture Preservation Lead, describes the Destination Heritage program to an audience of over 40.

Photo by Brandi Link

Yes, I want to join the Queen Anne Historical Society in preserving our community's heritage and promoting the public's understanding of its past.

Name _____ Tel. _____

Address _____

City _____, State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Member Category: (check one)

☐ Individual \$15 ☐ Patron \$50 - \$199
☐ Family \$20 ☐ Benefactor \$200 & up
☐ Student/Senior \$8 ☐ Contribution only, \$ _____

☐ I would like to become active in the Society.

The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Donations are deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

Return with payment to: Queen Anne Historical Society,
PO Box 19432, Seattle, WA 98109-1432

I want to order the Society's book, *Queen Anne: Community on the Hill*, or the new *Stairs Map*. Mailing costs will be added.

Prices are:

Soft cover book: \$25
(**\$20 for members**)

Hard cover book: \$45
(**\$40 for members**)

Stairs Map: \$5

Please send me the following:

Soft cover qty: _____; Cost _____

Hard cover qty: _____; Cost _____

Stairs Map qty: _____; Cost _____

Plus mailing costs at \$3/book

or \$1.50/map: _____

Total Cost: \$ _____

Queen Anne Historical Society
PO Box 19432
Seattle, WA 98109-1432

Coming up: Seattle's First World's Fair—the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. With Alan Stein of HistoryLink. Wed. April 8 at 7:30 pm. Story on page one.



AYPE vista. Courtesy UW Libraries
Special Collections.

KIM'S MUSINGS

Two Centennials

When my mother was a baby, her mother brought her over from Walla Walla to Seattle to visit grandma's brother, Adrian Broxson, who was a butcher in the north end of the city. While she was here, they took in the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition at the University grounds, taking the streetcar from Ballard across the city to the University District. They enjoyed the exhibits, but mother had no recollection of anything other than the flowing water from the Cascades into what is now the Drumheller Fountain on the campus. It would have been August when they came over, mother having had her first birthday in April. It is more pleasant to spend August in Seattle than in Walla Walla, as the latter can reach 114 degrees F often during that month (remember, this is before air conditioners were in use by ordinary citizens).

That same year, Queen Anne High School opened in September, 1909, the brainchild of Ebenezer Shorrock, whose far-seeing vision placed the school on top of the hill, instead of down where the former Post-intelligencer building stood from 1948 on, and within two blocks of the old Denny School. That was one of the prospective sites for the planned high school. The high school opened with the former head of

Broadway High School's history department as its first principal, Otto L. Luther, who served from the opening day until June of 1951, when he retired from the system.

Among other notables on the staff were Benno J. Uhl, foreign language teacher; Winona Bailey, math teacher whose exploits in conquering the high mountains on every continent except Antarctica were legendary; and J. Harlan Bretz, the first science teacher, who came from Michigan via Chicago. Bretz's later work in determining the truth behind the formation of the Channeled Scablands in Eastern Washington and Idaho was lampooned until the early 1950s. Then, aerial photography proved correct his rationale that the catastrophic break-up of prehistoric Lake Missoula formed the scablands. He was only at Queen Anne for two years, then taught at Franklin High School before moving on to the University of Washington. He lived to see his startling theories proved fact.

Another faculty member was Victor Buchanan, head of the English Department. He wrote several books of poetry during his years at Queen Anne and left prior to 1930.

Over its 72 years of service to the city, Queen Anne managed to hire some of the best teachers in Seattle. In a later issue of the Cobblestone we will chronicle some of the students whose achievements became legendary.

Kim R. Turner, Researcher, QAHS

Isn't it time you became more involved with the Queen Anne Historical Society?

Join the Board of Trustees! Help out in the archives! Call John Hennes at (206) 284-2266

for more details about how you can share in making and keeping Queen Anne's history.